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EVENING BULLETIN

The Oldest 8 Page
Evening Paper Published
on the Hawaiian Islands.
Subscription 75c. a month.

VOL. III. No. 574.

HONOLULU, H. I., FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1897.

PRICE 5 CENTS.

THE EVENING BULLETIN.

Published every day except Sunday at
210 King Street, Honolulu, H. I.
SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
Per Month, anywhere in the Ha-
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Per Year.....8 00
Per Year, postpaid to America,
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HOME OYSTER CULTURE

UNITED STATES FISH COMMISSION REPORT ON PEARL HARBOR.

No Doubt that the Waters are Suitable
—Suggestion of Better Location
for the Beds.

John F. Colburn has received the following letter from Captain Moser of the United States Fish Commission's steamer Albatross. It will be remembered that Mr. Colburn entertained the Captain, officers and scientific attaches of the ship by a railway excursion to his Pearl Harbor residence and a luau at that place, together with a sample treat of his oysters, on the 18th of last November. The letter of Captain Moser explains itself:

U. S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries, Steamer Albatross, San Diego, California, 16th March, 1897.

Hon. John F. Colburn, Honolulu, Hawaii.

My dear Mr. Colburn: In my report to the U. S. Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries on the operations of this vessel for the six months ending December 31, 1896, I said on the subject of "Oyster Culture in Hawaii," the following:

"That the oyster was a native of these waters and occurred in great numbers is evidenced by the numerous oyster banks found in different localities now raised above the sea level and having an earthy covering. When visiting the fish ponds on the Pearl Lochs I examined the ancient oyster banks on the eastern side of the Middle Loch on the neck which joins Waipua with the mainland. The shoreline here consists of a vertical bluff from 10 to 15 feet high with a strata of oyster shells 6 to 8 feet thick. This strata is exposed on the loch face for fully half a mile and can be traced for a long distance across the peninsula. I procured a number of specimens which have been forwarded from which it may be seen that they closely resemble our own eastern oyster. These are not shell heaps like those on our southern coast and in other localities, but are entire, in situ, as both valves are usually in place and can be readily removed. They do not seem to occur in masses or clusters, but are large single oysters in size resembling the better varieties of marketable Chesapeake Bay oysters. It is possible that these oyster banks were formed layer by layer, the upper ones smothering the lower until through some natural cause the beds were covered with mud and afterwards lifted above the sea level. On this little peninsula in two different places I examined the remains of large numbers of pearl oysters which seem to have occurred in pockets amongst the other oysters. The shells were all so friable that no good specimens could be procured, but from the mass of debris I was able to get sufficient evidence that they were pearl oyster shells. I was also told that at the present day a few pearl oysters are found off Beckoning Point.

"Upon invitation of Hon. John F. Colburn, I visited his fish and oyster pond on Pearl Lochs. The pond Loko Paauu on the chart is his property and I think he is the only person who is making any effort in oyster culture on these islands. In reply to an inquiry requesting information relating to his efforts in oyster culture in Hawaii I quote as follows:

(Here I inserted a verbatim copy of your letter to me under date of Nov. 19, 1896.)

"From the foregoing letter it will be seen that oyster culture in Hawaii is of very modern date and from my own observation in an experimental stage. I think there is no doubt that the waters are suitable for oyster culture:

"The ancient beds and the experience of Mr. Colburn attest it, but experiment will alone discover the proper conditions for a commercial enterprise. "I went over the oyster beds with Mr. Colburn and we took from the water both transplanted oysters and those that had been propagated in the pond, specimens of which have been forwarded. When taken from the water they have a brownish appearance which upon inspection proves to be a mossy growth on the shell. They are large, well rounded, and when opened beautiful in appearance and of good flavor. It is difficult to judge the flavor of an oyster when one is not in a real oyster country. In San Francisco one relishes the eastern transplanted, when in Norfolk or Washington these same oysters would be considered rather poor.

"To my taste Mr. Colburn's oysters had a slight flavor of the moss or grass and they seemed to have too much fresh water, similar to some found along the coast of North Carolina and elsewhere, though the specific gravity, 1.016988, temperature 78° Fahr., does not indicate too much fresh water.

"These oysters are planted in a fish pond stocked with mullet. The bottom is soft and I believe covered with grass. The gratings for tidal access are very small. Mr. Colburn deserves much praise for the manner in which he has conducted this work, but it is my opinion that he has not selected the best ground in the locality for oyster culture. The fish in the pond must necessarily destroy the spat; over a soft or grassy bottom with few spat collectors, the spat have nothing to fasten to, and in confined areas of water the struggle for existence must be very great.

"Off the bluffs before alluded to where the ancient oyster beds are located the water shoals gradually and the bottom appears to be not very soft, and so far as I could see clear of grass. Proper exploration would probably discover other grounds open to the full tide and well adapted to oyster culture. If then a favorable selection of ground were made and properly prepared with plenty of material for spat collection, enclosed by suitable fencing and the proper plants made, I believe that the oyster would be successfully and profitably propagated in these waters.

"Experiment alone would determine the natural enemies to be guarded against. Plants from the Gulf of California, where the conditions are somewhat similar to those of Hawaii, I believe would be more suitable than easterns."

I beg to enclose herewith a copy of each photograph taken upon the occasion when you entertained us so handsomely at a luau and trust it may serve as a pleasant remembrance of the day. My only hope is that some day I may revisit dear old Hawaii where the generous hospitality of my friends has made me feel as though I were at home.

With Aloha Nui to you all, believe me,

Very truly yours,

JEFF. F. MOSER.

Anchored.

Anchored is what the man said when he dropped into the Anchor Saloon. Why? said his friend.

Because you can always get a cool refreshing drink served by gentlemanly attendants, and if you happen to drop in during lunch hour you will be regaled with solids as well as liquids. In fact the lunch at the Anchor is said by many to be the best in town. The celebrated Seattle beer is on tap. It is sparkling and ice cold. The finest of wines and liquors in town are to be had at this popular resort.

Preparing for War.

Pretoria, March 17.—President Kruger, in the course of a speech said: "While this unrest lasts my hands are tied, and I must prepare for war."

KINDERGARTEN MEETING

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN SESSION THIS MORNING.

Cheering Reports from the Various Kindergartens—Resignation of Miss Buckley, of Palama.

There was a full meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Free Kindergarten Schools at Queen Emma hall this morning, Mrs. Hyde presiding.

In the report on the opening of the new Portuguese Kindergarten building, the following donations were noted in addition to the main one of \$1935 from J. E. Atherton.

Mrs. Butler of Chicago \$25 in cash.

John Emmeluth, one-third of the cost of the plumbing on the building.

Lewers & Cooke, one set of double sash.

The donation of Mrs. Butler has been applied to the insurance on the building for three years, leaving \$1.30 in the hands of the treasurer.

The Board unanimously adopted a vote of thanks to A. F. Cooke for his valuable services on the Building Committee.

There are seventy scholars enrolled in the Portuguese school at present.

Mention was made of the good effect the Kindergarten is already having on the neighborhood. The Portuguese are generally cleaning up their yards and repairing dwellings and fences; the children attending school are being better dressed and are much more cleanly in their general appearance.

Mrs. W. A. Fuller was appointed chairman of the Hawaiian Committee in place of Mrs. J. T. Waterhouse, resigned on account of absence.

The resignation of Miss Buckley, in charge of the Palama school, was received and accepted with regret. The vacancy has not yet been filled. There are 90 children enrolled at this school, while there are only accommodations for 55 or 60.

In the report from the Chinese schools Mrs. Birnie mentioned the case of a Chinese girl who had done the best work of any in getting a program of Kindergarten work on the sun. The program was considered so good that it would be used with little change.

THE HAWAIIAN MASQUERADE.

The Event Postponed Until Friday, April 23.

F. B. Oat, who is in charge of the arrangements for the coming masquerade ball of the Healan Boat Club, requests the BULLETIN to announce that, in deference to the wishes of several who do not care to attend a dance on the evening of Good Friday, the event has been postponed until the Friday following, April 23.

As before intimated, no tickets will be sold at the door nor any money taken on the night of the ball. Admission will be by ticket only and those purchasing tickets will be required to give the names of those who will attend. This rule is adopted in deference to the very general desire of the members of the club and their families.

Seattle Boat.

By the steamer Miowera, the Criterion Saloon received a large consignment of the celebrated book beer, brewed by the Seattle Brewing and Malting Co. This is the first book to make its appearance, and is a sure indication of better days.

A. H. M. McChesney and A. Freese left for San Francisco today on the bark Martha Davis. This is said to be Capt. Soule's last trip on that vessel.

OAHU SUGAR COMPANY.

Permanent Officers and Directors Elected This Morning.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Oahu Sugar Company the following permanent officers were elected: President, Paul Isenberg; first vice-president, B. F. Dillingham; second vice-president, M. P. Robinson; treasurer, J. F. Hackfeld; secretary, Ed. Suhr; auditor, W. F. Allen. Directors, S. C. Allen, F. J. Lowrey, W. Wolter and C. A. Brown. The meeting approved all that had been done by the temporary directors and officers.

The reports showed great progress in the work of plowing; also that the steam plows would be here in July and the pumping machinery in August.

MORTUARY REPORT.

Comparatively Low Death Rate for the Month of March.

Agent Reynolds' mortuary report for the month of March is at hand. There were 51 deaths in Honolulu last month, of whom 29 were males and 22 females. The nationalities were: Hawaiian 27, Chinese 9, Portuguese 5, Japanese 5, British 2, United States 1, unknown 1.

In the cases of fourteen of the deaths mentioned there was no medical attendance whatever.

The death rate for the same month in the past five years has been: 1893, 51; 1894, 45; 1895, 45; 1896, 63; 1897, 51.

The annual death rate per 1000 of last month's mortality is 20.40. By nationalities: Hawaiians, 28.17; Asiatics 16.18, foreigners 14.11.

Bad Mistake.

A Mr. Hill left Sydney in the Zealandia for a health visit to Honolulu accompanied by his wife. Mrs. Hill suffered so much from seasickness that, on arrival at Apia, Samoa, under medical advice the couple went ashore there.

The chief of police, Fries, shadowed Mr. Hill for his close answering to the description of an absconder from Australia named Geake. After some days he arrested the visitor, who upon examination was remanded for seven days. This was done in spite of news received that Geake had been arrested and taken to Sydney and arraigned there. The Samoa Herald says the British Consul is not free from censure for the blunder.

Birthday Celebration.

Miss Hattie McGuire celebrated her birthday yesterday by giving a luau to her friends at her home, Little Britain. Music, games and dancing made the time pass all too quickly. Those present were Capt. and Mrs. Gartenberg, the Misses McIntyre, Lizzie Gurney, Clara Gurney, Dot Weir, Ella Dayton, Messrs. Vida Thrum, Wm. Thompson, Digby Sloggett, H. Giles, E. L. Paris, David Dayton, Tom White and others.

For Rent.

A 6-roomed cottage, stables and servant's quarters, situate on Wilder avenue. Large grounds well laid out and planted with fruit and ornamental trees; one full set of furniture and cooking stove can remain in the house if wanted. Apply to A. V. Gear, 210 King street.

About 40 voters have been registered at the Judiciary building thus far. The hours are from 9 to 12 forenoon and 6 to 9 evening. Some who came up whose taxes for 1896 had not been paid before the end of the year were bitterly disappointed to find they could not vote at next election for the Legislature. Talk to the board about having "carried a gun," etc., was of course eminently irrelevant.

Superior breakfast sausage is a specialty at the Central Market. Ring up 104.

IN THE HIGHER COURTS

SEVERAL PROBATE MATTERS COME UP AT CHAMBERS.

Real Estate of Mahelona Minors to be Sold—Dr. Raymond's Suit Against Paia Plantation Company.

The administration of Warren Goodale's estate was continued by Judge Carter this morning, owing to no one appearing, until next Monday.

Emma Mahelona, as guardian of her minor children, petitioned for license to sell certain land interests of the wards at Moanalua, and invest the proceeds for their benefit, as the lands are now yielding no rents or profits whatever. Judge Carter granted the petition under bond of \$250. D. H. Case for petitioner.

Judge Carter approved the accounts of James B. Castle, administrator of the estate of the late Henry N. Castle, and ordered his discharge. Accounts show receipts of \$41,271.75, payments of \$34,114.40, balance \$7157.35. Petitioner in person.

J. A. Thompson, a deputy clerk, took the deposition of Dr. P. J. Aiken, of Paia plantation, in the case of Dr. Raymond against the Paia Plantation Co., this morning in presence of A. G. M. Robertson, attorney for plaintiff, and S. M. Ballou, one of the counsel for defendant. It is to be used at the hearing of the cause subject to objections.

Bishop Willis has been discharged as guardian of Henry Bolster by Judge Carter, the ward having come of age. Amount paid to the beneficiary over \$600, being his distributive share in the estate of his father, the late A. S. Bolster.

FIVE YEARS FOR CORBETT.

Six Months Each on Ten Separate Charges.

In the District Court this morning the cases against D. W. Corbett were unexpectedly brought up. Marshal Brown and Acting Attorney General Cooper appeared for the prosecution and J. A. Magoon for the defendant. The defendant, who was charged with violating Sec. 1, Chapter 36, Penal Code, in Honolulu, Island of Oahu, during the month of January, 1894, by indulging in certain lascivious behavior manifestly tending to the corruption of the morals, honesty and good habits of the people, the same being a common nuisance in the first degree and without authority or justification by law, pleaded guilty, and also to nine other similar charges in separate months of the same year, receiving a sentence of six months hard labor on each, together with costs. Each succeeding sentence to take effect after the previous one.

In consideration of the fact that the defendant pleaded guilty to these ten charges, the Attorney General announced that the Government would not prosecute the eleventh, to his mind the most serious of all.

The defendant's wife was in Court during the proceedings, but was not visibly affected.

After the sentences had been pronounced the defendant was allowed to say his farewells to his wife in Judge Magoon's office, after which he was taken to Oahu prison.

THE PACIFIC CABLE.

Survey from Sydney to Honolulu by a British Warship.

In its usual summary of movements of naval ships, the Auckland Herald mail edition of March 19 says:

"The Penguin has arrived at Sydney from Hobart. She leaves next month to survey the proposed cable route from Sydney to Honolulu, a work which is expected to occupy about six months."

The Hit .. of the .. Season....

is made by Ayer's Sarsaparilla. At this season, when warm and debilitating days are with us, there is nothing like Ayer's Sarsaparilla to put new life into the sluggish system. It sweeps away the dullness, lack of appetite, languidness, and pain, as a broom sweeps away cobwebs. It does not brace up. It builds up. Its benefit is lasting. Do you feel run down? Take

AYER'S Sarsaparilla.

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is much superior to silk in appearance and there is no comparison whatever in the wear. We have them in

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